

**DZIGA
VERTOV
LIFE AND WORK**

V o l u m e 1

1896-1921

JOHN
MACKAY



Table of Contents

Note on Abbreviations, Transliteration, and Translations	viii
Introduction: How Did It Begin?	xi
Chapter 1 Province of Universality: David Kaufman before the War (1896–1914)	1
“The People’s Benefit”: A.K. Kaufman’s Circulating Library in Bialystok	6
Books, Films and Boisterous, Rich Bialystok	25
“Be Reasonable!” Student and Worker Politics in Bialystok	36
What was Adam’s Nationality? The Bialystok Pogrom and its Aftermath	46
David Abelevich Kaufman	58
Chapter 2 Social Immortality: David Kaufman at the Psychoneurological Institute (1914–16)	68
War, Bekhterev, and the Psychoneurological Institute	70
Beyond the Institute	84
1. Connections, Connections	85
2. A Rational Cinema	98
3. Energy and Rhythm	106
Chapter 3 The Beating Pulse of Living Life: Musical, Futurist, Nonfiction, and Marxist Matrices (1916–18)	121
Chuguev, Music, and Interval	125

	After the Revolution: Futurism Early and Late	139
	A Job in “ <i>Khronika</i> ”	157
	Democratic Nonfiction	163
Chapter 4	Christ among the Herdsmen: From Refugee to Propagandist (1918–22)	193
	<i>Kino-Nedelia</i> (1918–19): Author, Archive, Détournement, Censorship	193
	1. <i>Kino-Nedelia</i> , “ <i>Khronika</i> ,” and Early Newsreel	198
	2. Newsreel Metamorphoses	210
	3. Newsreel Matrices	228
	Vertov’s Theatrical Origins: The Agit-Trains	233
	1. Agitation and Propaganda	242
	2. An Enormous Front of Destruction	256
	3. A Lure to Gather Any Kind of Meeting	270
	Acknowledgments	301
	Archives Consulted	307
	Filmography	310
	Bibliography	319
	Index	355